

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2024 3:23 PM
Subject: President/CEO Message -October 10, 2024

Campus Community,

Happy Thursday! I'm pleased to share this week's [President/CEO Message](#) with you a bit earlier than usual. While my initial goal was to send these updates every Thursday, the busy nature of our week sometimes pushes them to Friday. Rest assured, you'll receive the message on one of these days. I hope everyone is having a great week. The semester is flying by, and we're quickly approaching the start of the Fall's second eight-week session on **Saturday, October 19, 2024**. Following that, winter/spring registration will begin on **Tuesday, October 22**, based on the priority registration tiers. More information on the registration priorities can be found at the bottom of the "[How to Register](#)" webpage.

I've noticed many departments are already getting into the Halloween spirit with their office decorations. Dr. Pilar Huffman, director of professional development, will be sharing more details about the Halloween Decoration/Costume Contest soon. The winning department will enjoy a free lunch with me, and there will be a prize for the best costume as well.

Today's President/CEO Message includes an update on the Compton College Athletics program, a recent College Futures Foundation report on college students' ROI, and more.

Fall 2024 Enrollment Update

As of *today, October 10, 2024*, Compton College has generated 1,701 FTES for the Fall 2024 term. Our fill rate for Fall is currently 70%, and seats filled is 11,715.

Please encourage students to enroll in one more class at Compton College during the second eight-week session, which begins next **Saturday, October 19, 2024**. An updated list of open classes is available online at www.compton.edu/admissions-aid/docs/Open-Sections.pdf.

Compton College Athletics Update - Fall 2024

- Men's Cross Country: 10 student-athletes, led by Head Coach David Austin, recently participated in the SoCal Preview with a strong middle-pack performance.
- Women's Cross Country: 6 student-athletes, also under Coach Austin, had four members compete in the SoCal Preview.
- Men's Football: 51 student-athletes are competing in the Southern California Football Association (SCFA), currently 0-4. Sean Thompson was named SCFA Week 2 Player of the Week. The next game is on 10-19-24 at the College of the Desert.
- Women's Soccer: 24 student-athletes with a current record of 2-5-1.
- Men's Soccer: 29 student-athletes, current record 5-2-2*, with standout performances by goalkeeper Alessandro Martinez.
- Women's Volleyball: 13 student-athletes, current record 2-8.

For more information, including team schedules, results, and rosters, go to comptoncollegeathletics.com.

Compton College Shocks Nation's #1 El Camino In the South Coast Conference Men's Soccer Opener

In a surprising turn of events this week, the Compton College men's soccer team defeated the nation's top-ranked team, El Camino, 1-0, in their South Coast Conference opener on **October 8, 2024**. Hugo Reyes scored the decisive goal in the 32nd minute, with an assist from Bryan Espital. Goalkeeper Alessandro Martinez made seven crucial saves, securing the shutout and ending El Camino's 31-game undefeated streak. This victory marks a significant achievement for Compton, who now holds a 5-2-2 record.

Read the full story at <https://comptoncollegeathletics.com/sports/msoc/2024-25/releases/20241009k0cif5>.

Compton College Guided Pathways North Stars

At the *September 4, 2024*, [Guided Pathways Committee](#) meeting, the committee finalized its three goals for the 2024-2025 academic year. The goal statements are tied to the committee's North Stars, which are determined through a review of the [Institution-Set Goals](#). The table below shows the North Stars, related goal statements, and the action steps to achieve each goal.

North Star	Goal Statement	Action Steps
Fall-to Spring Persistence	Increase fall-to-spring persistence by 2% from a baseline of 73% for FT and 67% for PT students in fall 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the student ambassador program through the Black and Males of Color Student Success Initiative. In fall 2024, conduct a completion campaign for students who completed 45 units or more to complete their degrees. At least 10% will complete their degrees by spring 2025. Faculty will encourage students at the end of fall 2024 to register for spring 2025 classes. Clubs chartered by the Associated Student Government (ASG) will increase the connectedness to campus for enrolled students.
First-Time Students Returning After One Year	Increase first-time students returning after one year by 10% from a baseline of 44% in fall 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASG-chartered clubs will increase the connectedness to campus for enrolled students. Receive recommendations from the Incentivizing Student Experience Workgroup. Faculty will encourage students at the end of spring 2025 to register for fall 2025 classes.
Completion of Transfer-Level English and Math in First Year	Increase completion of transfer-level English and math in the first year by 6% from a baseline of 14% for English and 10% for math in fall 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the in-reach timeline for first-year students who withdraw from English 101 and transfer-level math. Provide tutors with training in culturally relevant strategies to increase the use of tutoring services by Black students and male students of color. At least 25% of students in English 101 and transfer-level math will use tutoring support services or attend Just-In-Time Workshops.

California College Programs That Pay: Measuring Return on Investment Across Majors and Credentials

College Futures Foundation's new report, [California College Programs That Pay: Measuring Return on Investment Across Majors and Credentials](#), provides fresh insight into just how long it takes graduates to recoup higher education costs by specific programs of study at institutions across California. Lead author and researcher of the report, Michael Itzkowitz of the HEA Group, examined over 260,000 graduates across 2,695 undergraduate certificate, associate, and bachelor's degree programs offered at 324 institutions within California.

Across all California programs, 9 of 10 allow graduates to recoup their educational costs in 5 years or less. Of those examined, 12% of college programs within California show their graduates taking five years or longer to recoup their out-of-pocket costs; there are 112 programs where learners do not see any ROI.

The [California College Programs That Pay](#) report follows the foundation's [initial report](#) published last spring on institutions' ROI for low—and moderate-income learners, which laid the groundwork for critical ROI discussions across California. This follow-up report builds on that foundation, offering more nuanced data further to inform ongoing conversations about the value of higher education.

Compton Community College District Board of Trustees Meeting

The **October 15, 2024**, Compton Community College District Board of Trustees meeting will be held in Room 212 in the Student Services Building. The closed session begins at 5:00 p.m., with the open session commencing at 6:00 p.m.

The Board Agenda is posted 72 hours before the meeting. It is posted on the BoardDocs website under the "Meetings" tab at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/compton/Board.nsf/Public>.

President/CEO Closing the Loop

[Assembly Bill 1111 - Postsecondary education: common course numbering system](#) added section 66725.5 to existing Common Course Numbering (CCN) statute to require each community college to a) adopt a student-facing CCN system for all general education requirement courses and transfer pathway courses, and b) incorporate common course numbers into its course catalog. Concurrently, [Assembly Bill 183 - Higher Education Trailer Bill](#) from 2021-2022 provided a one-time allocation of funds to support colleges with this implementation. On **September 23, 2024**, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office released a [memorandum](#) regarding the CCN implantation allocations. All colleges, including Compton College, received an allocation of \$913,043 to cover the work needed over three years to implement CCN. On **October 1, 2024**, I approved the [proposed budget](#), which allocates \$364,043 for technology, \$115,000 for training, \$330,000 for faculty and staff, including continuing to support a provisional administrative assistant and evaluator, and \$104,000 for marketing and communications to students.

Final Thoughts

Last month, during the [Los Angeles County Regional Consortium](#) CEO meeting, two significant reports were shared. The first was the [Los Angeles Subregional Profiles Project: Summary Report](#), which was developed to support California Community Colleges in updating and enhancing career education programs. The Los Angeles Centers of Excellence created six subregional profiles analyzing demographic, labor market, and postsecondary supply data, with the fall 2024 report summarizing these findings. The second report was the [Gateway Cities Subregional Profile](#) focusing on the Gateway Cities subregion, which includes Cerritos College, Long Beach City College, Rio Hondo College, and most importantly, Compton College.

In the [President/CEO Message – October 4, 2024](#), I discussed the importance of carefully monitoring state and district budgets. Fiscal decisions impact not only the preparation and updating of our Five-Year Fiscal Management Plan but also our bond ratings when selling bonds to support facilities. Last spring, we sold \$35 million in 2014 Measure C Bonds. Our district received Aa3 ratings from Moody's Investor Service and AA- from S&P Global, both in the High Investment Grade category. For your reference, our bond ratings from Moody's and S&P Global from 2004 to the present are available [here](#). Notably, Compton CCD has experienced positive rating upgrades since 2009, reflecting our district's hard work in achieving accreditation and maintaining stable finances.

Why is this important? Earlier this month, I read an article on Inside Higher Education titled "[S&P Optimistic About Community College Financial Trends](#)." The article shared the "[U.S. Community College District Fiscal 2023 Medians: A Reason For Optimism As A New School Year Gets Under Way](#)" report from S&P Global.

Page 8 discusses California's fiscal conditions, and page 15 includes the Compton CCD Rating. The report contains similar information to what I have been sharing with the campus community since ***October 2021*** regarding the "***funding floor.***" Additionally, the report highlighted enrollment concerns in California Community Colleges, with projections from the California Department of Education indicating a statewide K-12 enrollment drop of about 12% through the 2033-2034 fiscal year.

In closing, please have a wonderful Friday and weekend.

Sincerely,

Keith Curry, Ed.D.
(*he/him/his*)
President/CEO
Compton College